

Attorney Docket No. VER-153XX
Filed: Herewith
Group Art Unit:

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment puts the claims into proper form for examination. Note that claims 3-6, 8-9, 12, 14 and 16-18 have been amended and claims 19-24 have been added. Kindly calculate the filing fee based on the amended claims.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter which would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure

Red-lined claims for the Examiner's convenience:

3. A system according to claim 1—or—2, characterized in that the system is further provided with an afterburner or boiler burner included in the combustion path between the first and the second heat exchanger.

4. A system according to claim 192—and—3, characterized in that the fuel cell, waste gas burner, second heat exchanger, afterburner and first heat exchanger are series connected.

5. A system according to claim 3—or—4, characterized in that the afterburner is further provided with a separate inlet for supplying a gas, such as natural gas.

6. A system according to any one of claims 2, 4—or—5, characterized in that the waste gas burner is further provided with at least one first inlet included in the combustion path and a second inlet for supplying air.

8. A system according to claim 1any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the fuel cell is provided with a first inlet connected with the fuel processor for supplying

hydrogen to the fuel cell, a second inlet for supplying air to the fuel cell, a first outlet for discharging waste gas from an anode of the fuel cell and a second outlet for discharging waste gas air from a cathode of the fuel cell.

9. A system according to claims 207 and 8, characterized in that the first outlet of the fuel cell is connected with the first inlet of the waste gas burner included in the combustion path.

12. A system according to any one of claims 8-11, characterized in that the system is further provided with a controllable first bypass connection for bridging the first inlet and the first outlet of the fuel cell when starting up the system.

14. A system according to claim 1any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the system is further provided with a central heating circuit and a third heat exchanger for exchanging heat between the first heating circuit and the central heating circuit.

16. A system according to claim 14-~~or 15~~, characterized in that the first heating circuit is designed as a reversible heating

circuit in which a heat transport medium can be selectively pumped round in two directions.

17. A system according to claim 14, ~~15 or 16~~, characterized in that the system is further provided with a heat destroyer in the form of, for instance, a fin included in the first heating circuit between the fuel cell and the third heat exchanger for adjustably discharging heat from the first heating circuit when the fuel cell, in use, cannot be cooled sufficiently after starting up.

18. A system according to ~~claim 1any one of the preceding~~ claims, characterized in that the fuel processor is provided with humidifying means for humidifying the hydrocarbons supplied to the fuel processor, which humidifier is included in the second heat exchanger for supplying heat to the humidifying means.